

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

October

YEAR

1996

SIGNATURE

Amy McCullough

In Charge of HSA

DATE

11-8-96

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
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When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

Significant river flooding occurred along the Llano River in Kimble and Mason counties on October 28th. This flooding was a result of a stationary front over the hill country combined with deep tropical moisture during the early morning hours of the 28th. Most of the rainfall occurred in the headwaters of the Llano River over northern Edwards County. Heavy rain also occurred over eastern Kimble and southern Mason counties. Rainfall amounts of 3 to 5 inches were common over Kimble and Mason counties. The runoff quickly entered the Llano River and caused river flooding and damage to homes and roads.

An observer in Telegraph along the South Llano River reported the river had risen 20 feet on the morning of the 28th. The South Llano State Park just outside of Junction reported a crest of 14 feet in the late morning. Several secondary park roads were damaged, as well as numerous signs. Eight people camping in the park were evacuated. The water moved into the city of Junction and caused R.V. and camper parks to be evacuated, but no damage was reported in the city limits. The water treatment plant was flooded requiring the residents of Junction to boil their drinking water. The river crested at 23.7 feet around 2 P.M. at the river gage east of town. Most flood damage in Kimble County occurred along the Johnson Fork, a tributary of the Llano River in the eastern part of the county. As many as four homes were flooded with as much as 3 feet of water in the homes. Several roads were damaged or washed out in the county including FM 2169 near Segovia and Highway 377 about 15 miles south of Junction. Kimble County commissioners reported a damage estimate of \$1.79 million to county roads. About 300 miles of fencing was damaged, and private property losses of near \$1 million were reported by the Kimble County Judge. A secondary crest of around 24 feet occurred during the evening of the 28th. The economic impact of the flood will be felt for several weeks in Kimble County, as deer hunting season began that week. Several hunters were cut off from the hunting areas due to damage on private and secondary roads.

Lowland flooding occurred in Mason County along the Llano River and Beaver Creek. The Llano River near Mason crested at 24.6 feet around 10:30 am on the 28th. Bankfull stage is 6 feet. No severe damage was reported in Mason County, however the water was reported a few feet below some homes at the time of the crest. Water was also reported running over highway 87 in the south part of the county. The Llano River near Mason had a secondary crest of near 22 feet during the night of the 28th. Beaver creek near Mason crested at 19.6 feet on the morning of the 28th. Flood stage is 12 ft. No major damage was reported, however several fences were damaged.

Over the rest of the HSA, most of the month of October was relatively dry. Some areas across the Big Country, Concho Valley and Northern Edwards Plateau did receive some heavy rainfall during the early morning of October 28th. Some areas in San Angelo received up to 3 inches of rain, but no flooding was reported. For the month, the San Angelo airport received 2.42 inches of rain, which is 0.02 inches above normal. This brings the yearly total to 19.10 inches, which is 0.52 inches above normal. For Abilene, the monthly total rainfall was 2.55 inches, which is 0.04 inches above normal. The yearly total rainfall for Abilene is 26.52 inches, which is 4.63 inches above normal.